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Message Text

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41
ACTION FBO-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 A-01 /016 W
---------- 129360
O P 201715Z AUG 74
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9773

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 3678

LISBON FOR PAUL STANGE, FBO

A/FBO FOR CLEM RALSTON

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ABLD, RO
SUBJECT: NEW CHANCERY SITE

1. WE HAVE TRIED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU BY TELEPHONE FOR THE LAST TWO DAYS TO FOLLOW UP BOB MYERS' CALLS TO YOU IN BERLIN AND HELSINKI. IN A TALK YESTERDAY WITH DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS GLIGA HE RECONFIRMED ROMANIAN INTEREST IN AN EXCHANGE OF SITES, I.E. LAND HERE IN THE NEW DIPLOMATIC ENCLAVE FOR A SITE IN WASHINGTON AT THE VAN NESS PROJECT. ON SEPTEMBER 1 THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WILL BEGIN OFFERING SITES TO OTHER INTERESTED COUNTRIES. WE ASSUME CERTAIN PREFERRED SITES WILL BE SELECTED VERY SHORTLY. FOR EXAMPLE, GLIGA INFORMED US CHINESE HAVE ALREADY STATED INTENTION SIGN UP FOR ONE OF BEST AREAS. GLIGA MADE CLEAR HIS DESIRE TO OFFER US FIRST CRACK AT REMAINING SITES.

2. ON BASIS MY VARIOUS DISCUSSIONS THIS SUBJECT AS WELL AS APPARENT LACK OF ALTERNATIVE SITE AT A REASONABLE PRICE, I AM PERSUADED IT IS IN OUR INTEREST FOR YOU TO SPEND A COUPLE OF DAYS HERE DURING YOUR CURRENT EUROPEAN VISIT INVESTIGATING THIS POSSIBILITY IN MORE DETAIL. GLIGA STATED MFA WOULD BE PLEASED TO FACILITATE MEETINGS
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WITH OFFICE FOR SERVICES TO THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS (ODCD)

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AND CITY ENGINEER OF BUCHAREST FOR TECHINICAL DISCUSSIONS
RELATIVE TO SEWAGE, WATER FACILITIES, AMOUNT OF CLEARANCE
BETWEEN BUILDINGS, PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, ETC.

3. A SECOND COMPELLING REASON FOR VISIT BY YOU NOW
RATHER THAN LATER IN THE FALL IS TO APPRISE YOU OF OUR
PLANS FOR MEETING WHAT IS ABOUT TO BECOME AN EMERGENCY
SPACE PROBLEM IN THE CHANCERY. WITH THE ARRIVAL OF A
NEW SECRETARY FOR THE ECONOMIC SECTION IN MID-SEPTEMBER
OVERCROWDING IN THE CHANCERY WILL HAVE REACHED THE POINT
WHERE WE WILL HAVE TO PLAY MUSICAL CHAIRS TO GIVE CERTAIN OFFICERS
NEEDED WORKING SPACE. WE HAVE DEVELOPED SEVERAL PROPOSALS WHICH WILL
MODERATELY INCREASE THE OFFICE AREA BUT WHICH WILL REQUIRE FBO
FUNDING. DUE TO URGENCY OF OUR NEED, AN ON-SITE INSPECTION
BY YOU AND A DISCUSSION OF BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS WOULD
GREATLY FACILITATE OUR HANDLING THIS PROBLEM. PLEASE LET
ME KNOW AS SOON AS YOU CAN IF YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PAY US
A VISIT NOW. SUGGEST YOU CABLE SINCE PHONE LINES ARE SO
CLOGGED WITH POPULATION CONFERENCE.

4. FOR FBO. PAUL HAD TOLD MYERS HE WAS NEEDED BACK IN
WASHINGTON THIS WEEK. I HOPE VERY MUCH YOU
CAN AUTHORIZE A DELAY IN HIS RETURN.
BARNES

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TAGS: ABLD, RO
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